

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Newly submitted claims 72-77 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Claims 72-77 are directed towards inter alia, framing, using at least one processor, a decision situation; loading, using at least one processor, data required for decision and strategy modeling; verifying, cleansing, and transforming, using at least one processor, the loaded data; computing, using at least one processor, additional variables from the loaded data to construct a data dictionary; determining, using at least one processor, characteristics within the loaded data that are effective decision keys and intermediate variables; formalizing, using at least one processor, relationships between decisions, decision keys, intermediate variables, and value of a decision model corresponding to the loaded data; encoding, using at least one processor, information into the decision model; determining, using at least one processor, strategies for testing; testing, using at least one processor, the determined strategies to guide refinement of strategies and refinement of the decision model and to select a best strategy for deployment; deploying, using at least one processor, the selected best strategy, selecting intermediate variables that drive value; building coarse models of intermediate variables; and verifying constraints; and drawing a decision model structure based on the verified constraints and coarse models of intermediate variables.

Art Unit: 3623

Contrarily, original claims 1-54 do not require framing, using at least one processor, a decision situation; loading, using at least one processor, data required for decision and strategy modeling; verifying, cleansing, and transforming, using at least one processor, the loaded data; computing, using at least one processor, additional variables from the loaded data to construct a data dictionary; determining, using at least one processor, characteristics within the loaded data that are effective decision keys and intermediate variables; formalizing, using at least one processor, relationships between decisions, decision keys, intermediate variables, and value of a decision model corresponding to the loaded data; encoding, using at least one processor, information into the decision model; determining, using at least one processor, strategies for testing; testing, using at least one processor, the determined strategies to guide refinement of strategies and refinement of the decision model and to select a best strategy for deployment; deploying, using at least one processor, the selected best strategy, selecting intermediate variables that drive value; building coarse models of intermediate variables; and verifying constraints; and drawing a decision model structure based on the verified constraints and coarse models of intermediate variables.

Rather, claims 1-54 are directed towards providing “any of” a plurality of modules, wherein each of said modules has capability to interact with an expert task manager, wherein said expert task manager provides expert knowledge about strategy modeling process and sub-processes.

Art Unit: 3623

2. Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 72-77 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.
3. The amendment filed on filed May 12, 2009, canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03), since there are no claims to examine.

### ***Conclusion***

4. Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre Boyce whose telephone number is (571)272-6726. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Beth Boswell can be reached on (571) 272-6737. The fax phone

Art Unit: 3623

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Andre Boyce/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3623  
August 27, 2009